



501.37854X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): T. NAKATA, et al
Serial No.: 09/437,265 ✓
Filed: November 10, 1999
For: METHOD FOR MEASURING DIMENSIONS AND ALIGNMENT
OF THIN FILM MAGNETIC HEAD AND APPARATUS
THEREFOR
Group: 2877
Examiner: H. Lee

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RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 18, 2002

Sir:

The following remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application in response to the Office Action dated November 18, 2002.

The requirement for election of a single disclosed species identified as species (a) interferometrically obtaining geometrical information (claims 7-10 and 17-20) and species (b) detecting geometrical information with ultraviolet light having a wavelength of 300 nm or less (claims 1-6 and 11-16), such requirement is traversed in that both of the identified species (a) and (b) are directed to measuring dimensions and alignment of a thin film magnetic head which is illuminated with an illuminating light and obtaining information based upon such light. Thus, applicants submit that species (a) and (b) are related and should be considered together.

In order to provide a complete response to the election requirement, applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, species (b) including claims 1-6 and 11-16.

For the foregoing reasons, favorable action on all claims present in this application are respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, applicant's petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (501.37854X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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